GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:385
ANSWERED ON:21.04.2008
PAYMENT OF MINIMUM WAGES TO FISHERMEN
Manoj Dr. K.S.

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government proposes to instruct the State Governments to ensure payment of statutorily prescribed Minimum Wages for each day of work done by the traditional fishermen living in the marine fishing villages in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES)

(a) & (b): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement referred to in reply to parts (a) & (b) of Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 385 for 21.04.2008 by Dr. K.S. Manoj regarding Payment of Minimum Wages to Fishermen.

(a) & (b): Under the provisions of the Minimum Wages Act, 1948, both Central and State Governments are the appropriate Governments to fix/revise minimum wages in the scheduled employments in Central and State sphere respectively. Since fishing and allied activities fall under the purview of State sphere, the State Governments as appropriate Governments have notified minimum wages for such scheduled employments. This benefits traditional fishermen living in the marine fishing villages as well. On the basis of information available, a statement showing minimum wages fixed for different category of workers engaged in fishing and allied activities in different States/Union Territories is Annexed.

Payment of minimum wages in the State sphere is secured through regular inspections by the State Enforcement Machinery. In the event of detection of any case of non-payment or under-payment of minimum wages, the employers are advised to make good the shortfall of wages. In case of non-compliance, penal provisions prescribed in the Act are resorted to.